the hon. Minister as to what is the position of the visit. Has the Government of India told Pakistan clearly that it would not be possible for our Prime Minister to visit Pakistan unless it changes its policy on the question of terrorists and provide a ground work also for improving relations between the two countries?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Yes Sir. At the end of Gen. Zia's visit to New Delhi on December 17, 1985, it had been agreed that subject to concrete results having been achieved in different fields, it was to culminate in the visit of the Prime Minister to Pakistan in the first half of 1986. Unfortunately, there have been some negative developments, which have made it difficult for the Prime Minister to visit Pakistan. Some of these developments are:—as I mentioned—Pakistan's assistance to the Sikh extremists is continuing. Secondly, the Joint Commission meeting which was to have preceded the Prime Minister's visit has not taken place as yet; Pakistan has been delaying the meeting of the two out of the four sub-commissions; Pakistan has not suggested any date for a meeting of the senior officials to discuss trade which had been agreed to during the visit of the Commerce Minister. Thirdly, while Gen. Zia said at the Delhi Airport on December 17, that Pakistan wants the Kashmir question to be resolved in accordance with the Simla Agreement, subsequent statements by Pakistani leaders, particularly, the resolution of the ruling Muslim League, have been at variance with Gen. Zia's Delhi statement. Some of the statements of the Pakistani leaders about our minorities have been unfortunate and constitute an interference in our internal affairs.

Per hectare yield of tea

*364. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the average per hectare yield of tea has remained stagnant during the last 3-4 years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Average per hectare yield of tea in India has gone up from 1420 kgs. in 1982 to around 1650 kgs. in 1985.

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Sir, as tea is a very important item of our exports, if competitiveness in regard to prices is to be maintained, it would be necessary to ensure that our unit cost of production is as low as possible. For this purpose, a lot of research efforts in this field are necessary. In this connection, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that all is not well with research efforts in this regard and is it also a fact that the C&AG has made very adverse comments on the research organisation? If so, what steps Government propose to take to improve the working?

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: Sir, in fact, the achievement of India in the matter of production of tea is better than anywhere else. We are taking two types of measures, short-term measures and long-term measures and there is always scope for improvement in the research centres and in regard to activities like development and promotion.

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Sir, this is not the reply to my question. Anyway, I would ask my second supplementary. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the share of Indian tea in the world tea market and are our prices competitive with that of Sri Lanka?

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: Sir, I can give the share of India in the matter of production. We are having some problems with Sri Lanka. Of course...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you got the figures in regard to the share of India?

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: Details of production and exports I have.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not details. The hon. Member wants to know whether you have any figures about the share of India in the world production.

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: This figure I do not have.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At least, give the percentage.

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: I do not have the percentage. I have the production figures. The question relates to production. I have the figures of production of India compared with other countries.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not right. When the hon. Member has asked about production, you should also have the figures about this country's production and the share of India in the world production. This is not correct.

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: Total export of world I do not have.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right.

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: I will send the figures.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: What is the use of asking further questions if the hon. Minister is not ready at all.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the total amount of money released by the Tea Board in favour of tea planters for modernisation as well as new plantations in the last three years?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has no answer for this because the question relates to the yield per hectare.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: It pertains to his Ministry. It pertains to the same department. Research and other things are looked after by the Tea Board. It is quite relevant. It pertains to the same area.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Tea Board helps tea planters... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must ask a separate question. The question is, what is the per hectare production of tea?

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: Let the Minister reply. I think the Minister can give a reply to this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A few minutes back the Minister said, he has got no reply for many things. Yes, Mr. Bhattacharjee.

SHRI KAMALENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Sir, it is fact that the yield of tea in the Barak Valley, Kachar and Karim Ganj district is very low. It is in this background of quantity and also in the background of quality that we had been pleading with the Ministry to keep Barak Valley outside the purview of auction control order. I would like to know whether they are acceding to our request of keeping Barak Valley outside the purview of the auction control order.

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: Sir, we have received several representations about it and this matter is under the active consideration of the Government.